

Please amend the Abstract on page 11 as follows:

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

~~The present invention relates to a~~ A method of manipulating an optical signal, ~~comprising the steps of:~~ includes a) splitting the optical signal into a first signal and a second signal, b) using the second signal as a signal undelayed with respect to the optical signal, c) delaying the first signal with respect to the second signal, d) splitting the first signal into a first and a second part, e) using the second part of the first signal as a delayed signal, and f) repeating steps a)- d) with the first part of the first signal.